

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1, 2, 5, 7 and 14 are amended and new claims 24 and 25 are added.

The Office Action objects to the disclosure. By this Amendment, paragraph 26 is deleted. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 7-8, 13-15 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) over U.S. Patent 6,456,629 to Bjorkqvist et al. (hereafter Bjorkqvist). The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bjorkqvist in view of U.S. Patent 5,138,614 to Baumgartner et al. (hereafter Baumgartner). The Office Action also rejects claims 5-6, 9-12 and 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bjorkqvist. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites a protocol integrating unit receiving a predetermined message from a lower layer of protocol and simultaneously interfacing the corresponding message to the N-ISUP network and the B-ISUP network according to a protocol type of the predetermined message. Independent claim 1 further recites that the protocol integrating unit is capable of interfacing an N-ISUP message to the N-ISUP network and interfacing a B-ISUP message to the B-ISUP network.

In contrast, Bjorkqvist discloses a B-ISDN 10 interworking with an N-ISDN 20. More specifically, as described in col. 3, an N-ISDN 20 may be coupled to an exchange terminal ET90 of a B-ISDN 10. At best, Bjorkqvist describes that when an application X of the N-ISDN 20 has a message to an application Y of the N-ISLP within the B-ISDN 10, it transfers the data to the N-ISUP 81 and after processing data including appending parameters, it passes a frame to

the B-ISDN 10. After other features, a remainder is passed to the N-ISUP 105. In other words, Bjorkqvist describes how messages may be transmitted between the networks and thus resulting in an interworking between the networks. See col. 3, line 50-col. 4, line 22. However, Bjorkqvist does not teach or suggest interfacing an N-ISUP message to the N-ISUP network and interfacing a B-ISUP message to the B-ISUP network.

Additionally, Baumgartner does not teach or suggest these missing features of independent claim 1. That is, the Office Action appears to rely on Baumgartner as showing multicast operations simultaneously sending out messages to two different networks. The Office Action cites Baumgartner's col. 4, lines 33-35 and Figure 5. However, this merely relates to a multicast packet switching network. There is no suggestion of how these packet switching multicasting features may be combined with Bjorkqvist's B-ISDN and N-ISDN. Baumgartner relates to a different type of signaling network and there is no relation to the communications of a B-ISDN and an N-ISDN. Accordingly, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter at least for these reasons.

Each of independent claims 5, 7 and 14 also define patentable subject matter for at least similar reasons. That is, independent claim 5 recites a message distribution managing unit transmitting an originating N-ISUP message from the primitive managing unit through the activated N-ISUP network to an ISDN user part and the message distribution managing unit transmitting an originating B-ISUP message from the primitive managing unit through the activated B-ISUP network to the ISDN user part.

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Furthermore, independent claim 7 recites transmitting a N-ISUP message through the activated N-ISUP network to the ISDN user part and transmitting a B-ISUP message through the activated B-ISUP network to the ISDN user part. Still further, independent claim 14 recites transmitting a corresponding message through the activated N-ISUP network to the ISDN user part and transmitting another corresponding message through the activated B-ISUP network to the ISDN user part.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Bjorkqvist and Baumgartner do not teach or suggest these features of independent claims 5, 7 and 14. Thus, independent claims 5, 7 and 14 define patentable subject matter.

Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims also recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references. For example, dependent claim 24 recites that the protocol integrating unit comprises a single unit. Similarly, dependent claim 25 recites that the protocol integrating apparatus comprises a single unit. The applied references do not teach or suggest these features. In particular, Bjorkqvist does not teach or suggest a single unit that performs features of one protocol integrating unit. Thus, dependent claims 24 and 25 define patentable subject matter at least for this reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-25 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in

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better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney,

David C. Oren, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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